

ADDED
COMMUNITY VALUES



TOOLS AND METHODS

**Lunds Ungdoms- och
Hemgård in Lund**

Sweden 2023



SOCIAL INCLUSION

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

ENVIRONMENTAL

SUSTAINABILITY

TOOL SUMMARY

Tool/method name	Lunds Ungdoms- och Hemgård
Summary description of idea and activities	Empowerment, Social inclusion and Active Citizenship via cultural activities.
Country observed	Sweden
Year observed	2023
Programme area (Social Inclusion/Active Citizenship/Environmental Sustainability)	Social inclusion, Active Citizenship, (Environmental Sustainability)
Specific topic	Cultural expressions/Empowerment
Beneficiaries of tool	Mainly youth
Can this tool be applied to other beneficiaries: yes/no	Yes
What type of beneficiaries: ALL, or specific ones?	All, but especially on vulnerable groups
If specific ones, which?	LGBTI persons, Immigrants, Persons with neuropsychiatric diagnosis...

Description

A virtual interview was done 2023-01-24 with Angela Noel, manager at Lunds Ungdoms- och Hemgård.

"The spirit of Settlements is like an open door. That means that everything that develops over time, good and evil, comes in to its world. It will be received without fear, be honestly tried, the evil shall be conquered and the good will be acknowledged without prejudice or selfish interests."

- The Spirit of Settlements, 1946

About:

- Hemgården is a local Settlement in the city of Lund and is mainly doing cultural activities for people between 14 and 25 yo even if it is open for all ages. Hemgården was founded in 1942 and its basic values are about democracy, social inclusion and empowerment. The premises are well equipped, especially for music activities, and has also a café that serve as an open meeting place. Hemgården has a strong "rainbow" identity and many visitors from the LGBTI community. The audience is also ethnically very diversified.

Values:

- Democracy, Inclusion and Social Justice

Vision:

- To promote a sense of community between people.
- Bridging generational differences and other boundaries between people.
- Supporting young people to realise their ideas.
- Encouraging people to become actively involved and co-create.
- To give influence and responsibility through democratic forms of organisation and work.
- To stimulate constructive social debate and thereby promote deeper democracy.
- The association tries to achieve its aims by bringing together young people and other interested parties in a home-like environment to promote community and understanding between people with different living conditions and opinions.

Mission:

- "'Föreningen Lunds Ungdoms- och Hemgård" mainly runs the meeting place HEMGÅRDEN, which is an open meeting place for everyone of all ages with a focus on young people. We have between 50-250 visitors per day and conduct educational activities with a focus on democracy and learning. The organisation's activity is to work actively to empower citizens.

The organisation's activities are often described based on the different expressions of the visitors. The expressions can be concerts, courses, music production, photography, screen printing, international exchanges, group activities, etc. The core activity in the educational work is a learning focus on these different expressions and a focus on giving individuals power over themselves. Hemgården is equal parts education, cultural activities, social work and leisure activities.

In short, the purpose of the organisation is to support young people and offer them the tools they need to become self-sufficient and take advantage of the opportunities available to create a good and meaningful life.

We do this by consistently using democratic working methods and giving our visitors the opportunity to take a great deal of responsibility for and in our activities.

Hemgården also has an important function as an open meeting place where people of all kinds can meet for dialogue and activity. There are great opportunities to practice various cultural activities. We want to make our activities as accessible and natural for as many people as possible. The meeting place as a hub for everyone, regardless of age, gender, function, ethnicity or other grounds for discrimination. This is an eternal process. Inclusive activities must be a process that must never stop. The sense of coherence for the individual is what we want to achieve and we see the cultural expression as a means to meet, not the goal itself.”



Basic Concepts, tools and indicators

Social Inclusion

Trust: “It is absolutely crucial to create trust with the participants. Without trust, social inclusion, active citizenship and engaging for environmental sustainability is impossible.”

Indicators:

- The visitors of our activities are staying/coming back on a regular or irregular basis.
- The activity material is “open” for visitors and not locked in lockers.
- We are actively reaching out to people by meeting them where they are and not only at our premises.
- We are able to meet people face-to-face and not only in group activities.
- We are convinced that all people/visitors is potentially competent for creating a good life.

Staff: “It is important to have different kinds of experiences and competencies in the staff.”

Indicators:

- The staff has different educational complimentary background.
- The staff has different social background.
- The staff is equally gender diversified.
- The staff has different ages.
- The staff has regularly group supervision and/or coaching.

Accessibility: “We want to be open for everyone regardless of physical disabilities, ethnical backgrounds,

sexual preferences or age.”

Indicators:

- We welcome all visitors when they enter our premises.
- All our activities are free of charge.
- We have fixed opening times at our premises.
- Our premises are located to a place close to where our audience lives.
- It is possible to just pop in for a cup of coffee at our premises.
- Our premises incl toilets are accessible also for people in wheelchairs.
- We have a rainbow flag outside of our premises.

Values: “The values need to be well known and embraced by all involved in our activities.”

Indicators:

- Our values is well communicated for all staff and visitors
- Our activities has a strong connection to our values

Activities: “We think it is important to offer activities that is wanted and needed by our visitors.”

Indicators:

- All our activities are asked for, or initiated, by our visitors
- We offer help with school home work
- All activities are free of charge
- We arrange language cafés
- Our activities are marketed in many different languages

Alliances: “To be able to meet the needs and wishes from our visitors it is important to have established cooperations with other organizations and authorities.”

Indicators:

- We offer spaces for free to other organizations that embrace the same values as us
- We are cooperating closely with authorities that can provide services to our visitors.
- We are cooperating with other organizations In different kind of projects.

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Active Citizenship and Democracy

Organization: “It is important for us to clearly communicate who is deciding what in our organization and that everyone knows the channels for making changes. We also want to support young peoples self-organization.”

Indicators:

- We have clear structures for meetings in our organization.
- We have rooms that can be used for free by groups, for meetings.
- We have staff that can help young people to organize themselves and start an organization of their own.
- We have a small fund where groups of youngsters can apply for micro projects.

Values: “It is important to always think about the connection between our activities and our values.”

Indicators:

- Our values is well communicated for all staff and visitors
- Our activities has a strong connection to our values
- Our values emphasize the importance of empowerment and democracy

Activities: “To have a structure on how to decide activities is good training in democratic procedures.”

Indicators:

- Our activities is mainly decided and/or initiated by our visitors
- Democratic circular techniques are used in all our meetings

- We arrange discussions on and debates on current issues.

Approach: “We have a positive outlook on people and are convinced that they want to do good things.”

Indicators:

- We regard all our visitors as potentially competent.
- We greet all visitors personally when they arrive to our premises.
- We always give feed back to visitors that has helped out or arranged something.

Green values:

Food: “Food is important in our organisation and to be aware of how ecological sustainability is connected to what we eat and how we treat food, is in line with our values”.

Indicators:

- We only serve locally produced food and drinks at our premises.
- We never serve food and drinks in non recycle platters and cups.

Recycling: “It is important for us to recycle all our rubbish as good as we can.”

Indicators:

- We have a system for sorting all rubbish in order to recycle it.

Activities: “We try to put an element of talking about environmental friendly solutions in most of our activities.”

Indicators:

- We have info evenings on how to live environmental friendly.
- We actively give opportunities to free shopping, like clothes, books, sport equipments and such.

For more resources and information

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